


ACT/015/026

December 4, 1986

TO: File

FROM: Frank Filas, Reclamation Engineer 

RE: Field Inspection of Sahara Mine, ACT/015/026, Emery County, Utah

On November 20, 1986 Frank Filas inspected Energy Fuels Nuclear's Sahara Mine. This underground uranium mine suspended mining operations on November 11, 1980 and was granted a two year extension for suspension of mine operations on June 3, 1983. Site conditions have deteriorated considerably since the last Division field inspection on January 17, 1983. These changes include the following:

1. The access roads to the mine property and to the pump site are heavily eroded.
2. The shop has been dismantled and hauled off site. A 120 foot by 60 foot concrete pad and a 10 foot high yellow air receiver are all that remains of the shop.
3. There is a large amount of trash in the vicinity of the shop pad. There is also a green Mack water truck with a flat tire in this area that has not seen use for a long period of time.
4. The electricity has been cut to the property and water is no longer being pumped from the mine workings. This may have an adverse effect on the underground roof and rib conditions due to the soft, friable rock formations that are present.
5. The two evaporation ponds show only a small amount of erosion, but the overflow pipes are plugged. The upper two-thirds of each pond has naturally revegetated while the lower one-third of each pond holds a small amount of water.

There are no obvious hazards on site. The entrances to both declines are adequately secured and the fence around the mine site is in good repair. A check with a radiation meter confirmed that no radiation hazards exist on site. This radiation check included the evaporation ponds which showed only background count.

jvb
cc: L. Braxton
W. Hedberg
0998R-2

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